



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D. C. 20535

NOV 7 2000

DR. IVAN GREENBERG

Subject of Request: **OFF OUR BACKS**

Dear Requester:

FOIPA NO. 927754

Enclosed are copies of documents from FBI records. Excisions have been made to protect information exempt from disclosure pursuant to Title 5, United States Code, Section 552 (Freedom of Information Act) and/or Section 552a (Privacy Act). In addition, where excisions were made, the appropriate exempting subsections have been cited opposite the deletions. Where pages have been withheld in their entirety, a deleted page information sheet has been substituted showing the reasons or basis for the deletion. The subsections cited for withholding information from the enclosed documents are marked below:

**Section 552**

- ☐ (b)(1)
- ☒ (b)(2)
- ☐ (b)(3)
- ☐ (b)(4)
- ☐ (b)(5)
- ☐ (b)(6)

**Section 552a**

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(A)            | <input type="checkbox"/> (d)(5) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(B)            | <input type="checkbox"/> (j)(2) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(C) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(1) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(D) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(E)            | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(F)            | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(4) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(8)               | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(5) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(9)               | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(6) |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(7) |

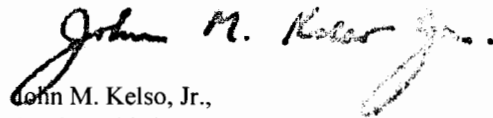
(See Form OPCA-16a, enclosed, for an explanation of these exemptions.)

Pursuant to your request, 10 preprocessed pages are being released.

The documents responsive to your request were previously processed for another requester. In order to provide the information you requested as soon as possible, we have released the FBI information as it was originally processed. We have not contacted other government agencies concerning their information in FBI files.

- ☒ If you desire, you may appeal any denials contained herein. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Co-Director, Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, Flag Building, Suite 570, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001 within sixty days from receipt of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.
- ☐ See additional information which follows.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John M. Kelso, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

John M. Kelso, Jr.,  
Section Chief  
Freedom of Information-  
Privacy Acts Section  
Office of Public and  
Congressional Affairs

Enclosures (2 )

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION**  
**COVER SHEET**

**SUBJECT: OFF OUR BACKS NEWSPAPER**

SAC, WFO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3/4/70

Director, FBI

"OFF OUR BACKS"  
IS - MISCELLANEOUS

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP  
DATE 9/29/74 JSP/JS

The 3/27/70 edition of "The Evening Star" contained an article concerning captioned publication. The article indicated that the "Off Our Backs" was recently established in the Washington area by a group of women concerned with women's liberation. The article indicated that the headquarters of this new publication was located "in a makeshift basement office in a house off Connecticut Avenue, Northwest."

Bureau files contain no information concerning captioned matter.

Through established sources endeavor to obtain a copy of this publication and forward it to the Bureau for perusal. In addition, review your files and discreetly contact logical sources in an effort to develop information pertaining to the following:

1. General nature of the publication
2. Location of publishing and printing facilities
3. Circulation
4. Sources of funds
5. Identities of leading activists
6. Connection with any New Left organization
7. Propensity for violence of individuals associated with this group

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/13/79 BY SP7/MLP

8. Whether individuals reside in a communal-type existence

9. Extent of any foreign or domestic subversion

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP

EX-103

15 MAR 5 1970

MAILED 21  
MAR 3 - 1970  
COMM-FBI

DECLASSIFIED BY 3908  
ON 10-4-79 DRK/mch

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_

53 MAR 1970

Letter to SAC, WFO  
RE: "OFF OUR BACKS"

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Upon completion of your investigation, pertinent data developed should be submitted to the Bureau in letter-head memorandum form suitable for dissemination. Include your recommendation as to whether investigation is warranted pursuant to the provisions of Section 872, Manual of Instructions.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**'LIBERATION' IS GOAL****Women Start a Newspaper**By **CONSTANCE HOLDEN**  
Star Special Writer

The Fourth Estate in Washington gets a new member today with the first issue of the women's liberation newspaper, "Off Our Backs."

The publishers say their paper is a symptom of a highly contagious growth of the movement across the country.

As the first newspaper of its kind in the East, "Off Our Backs" hopes to become the outlet for the more than 400 active women's liberation adherents in Washington.

"A lot of us felt that we were getting the shaft from the regular press — and even the radical press," says Marilyn Webb, a writer who shelled out \$400 of her own money to get the paper on its feet.

The new paper will tell what the others leave out, its publishers promise, exploring how women are discriminated against in education, jobs, salaries and working conditions; discussing the problems of marriage, family and the social position of women.

The aim of all this is to break down the stereotype of woman as the passive half of the population, devoted to child-suckling and drudgery and incapable of assuming traditionally male responsibilities, "Off Our Back" staffers say.

About a dozen young women are to contribute to the paper, operated by a core of three or four full-time volunteers in a makeshift basement office in a house off Connecticut Avenue NW.

The girls are excited about the new territory they feel they are exploring. In addition to female-planted coverage of news, they plan features on everything they can think of concerning women.

For example, Marlene Wicks, a nurse, plans to write a free-ranging "survival column" containing advice on such matters as birth control, free changing and kinks.

Marilyn Webb wants to do a series on "cultures" — the culture of the supermarket, of the bowling alley, of the singles bar — in which she intends to set the record straight on concepts about women tacitly accepted in American life.

She also plans to contribute some searing insights about hospital maternity wards, including fetishistic notions of hygiene. She will do her reporting on the

ground "Quicksilver Times." But the layout will be "more neat," says Marilyn Webb, and while four-letter words are acceptable there will be none of Quicksilver's blatant eroticism.

The first issue, some 8,000 copies running 20 pages, will center on matters of health and birth control.

Planned for later issues are discussions of Supreme Court

nominee G. Harrold Carswell, who the women regard as a "sexist," and labor conditions in the textile industry.

In the future, Marilyn wants to do a dissection of "true romance comics," and Marlene is preparing a critique on the "unbelievable racism" in the society of Porky Pig — a trait she noted while watching television cartoons with her son.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

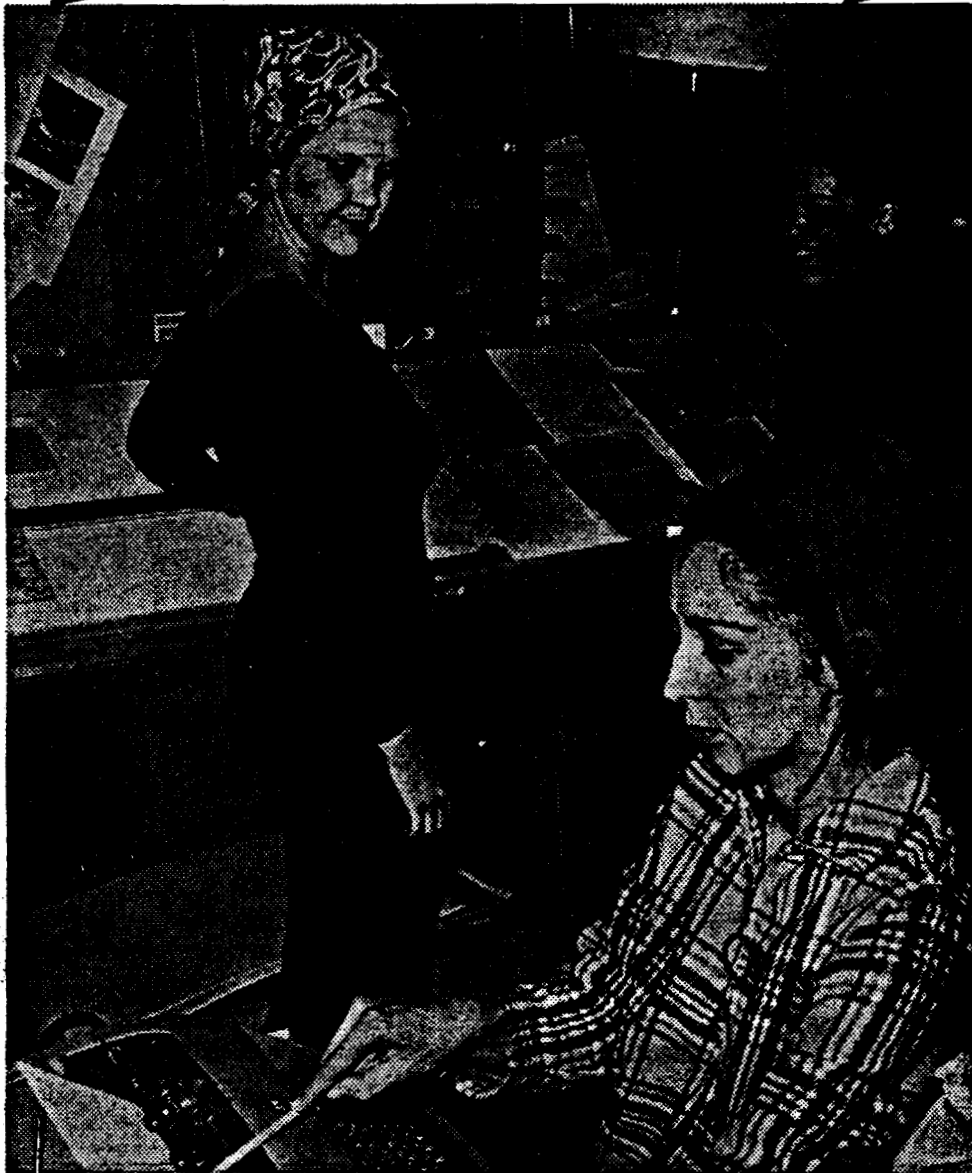
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/15/99 BY SP7/MLP

The Washington Post \_\_\_\_\_  
Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
The Evening Star (Washington) B \_\_\_\_\_  
The Sunday Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
Daily News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunday News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_  
New York Post \_\_\_\_\_  
The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
The Sun (Baltimore) \_\_\_\_\_  
The Daily World \_\_\_\_\_  
The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

NOT RECORDED

46 MAR 11 1970

F 291



Three staffers of the Women's Liberation newspaper work on the first issue—at typewriter, Mrs. Carol Sitrin; at makeup board, from left, Marlene Wicks and Marilyn Salzman-Webb.

DC

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET25

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100-457470-2

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
 X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
 X FOR THIS PAGE X  
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



FBI

Date: 7/2/73

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/13/79 BY 387-2242  
(Priority)TO: ACTING DIRECTOR, FBI (52-91969)  
FROM: SAC, WFO

OFF OUR BACKS NEWSPAPER (OOB)

IS - REVACT

OO:WFO

WFOfile: 100-50889 (C)

ReNY airtel to Bureau, 6/1/73.

6 JUL 12 1973

On 6/28/73, after several attempts, contact was made with "Off Our Backs", at their new office 1724 20th St. N.W., WDC. On that date SAs [redacted]

2-Bureau  
 1-Alexandria (Info) (52-234)  
 1-New York (52-9441)  
 2-WFO  
 (1-52-11203)  
 (1-100-50889) (OOB)

(6) JUL 24 1973

NOT RECORDED  
50 JUL 18 1973

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1972 - 455-574

Mr. Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Baker \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Cleveland \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gebhardt \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Jenkins \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Marshall \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Miller, E.S. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Severs \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Thompson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Baise \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Barnes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Bowers \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Herington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Conny \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mintz \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Eardley \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mrs. Hogan \_\_\_\_\_

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PROPRIETARY  
 IN FIELD  
 RECD  
 DATE 10-4-79  
 DRK/glt

Classified by 1254  
 Exempt from GDS (Exemption 3)  
 Date of Declassification Indefinite

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
 OTHERWISE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WFO 52-11203

[REDACTED] went to the offices of "Off Our Backs" and an individual who would only identify herself as a "staff member" of "Off Our Backs", advised that that paper has a strict policy regarding non-cooperation with the FBI, and she furnished no information to the agents and terminated the interview.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ARMED AND DANGEROUS - EXTREMIST

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

8/7/73

**AIRTEL**

**TO: DIRECTOR, FBI**  
**FROM: SAC, WFO**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/13/89 BY SP7 mcy/y

**OFF OUR BACKS NEWSPAPER (OOB)**  
**IS-REVACT**  
**(OO:WFO)**  
**(AXfile 100-624)**  
**(WFOfile 100-50889) (C)**

Re Alexandria Letter to WFO, 8/1/73, no copy  
Bureau or other offices, concerning the OOB publication;  
and WFO airtel to Bureau, Alexandria and New York, 7/2/73,  
concerning [REDACTED]

- 6-Bureau (Enc. 2)  
1-Alexandria (INFO)  
2-Baltimore (Enc. 1)  
2-New York (Enc. 1)  
3-WFO

(1-100-50889) (OOB)

(1-  
(1-  
(1-

(14) 59 AUG 29 1973

NOT RECORDED  
49 AUG 27 1973

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-457470-111

WFO 25-32642

Enclosed for the Bureau are two copies and for New York and Baltimore one copy each of Off Our Backs newspaper, Volume III, Number 9, for July-August 1973.

Information copy to Alexandria based on past communications.

For background Baltimore, enclosed OOB newspaper, pages 24-25, contains a letter signed by one "MARY MOYLAN", in response to a letter printed in the preceding edition of OOB, which letter was allegedly authored by JANE ALPERT.

b7c [REDACTED]

The "Alpert letter" was stated by OOB to have been received by mail, and has also been reprinted in the enclosed OOB newspaper, starting on page 27.

WFO effort to determine additional information re "Alpert Letter" by interview of OOB staff member on 6/28/73, met with negative results as the interviewing agents were told OOB has a strict policy regarding non-cooperation with the FBI.

In view of the above, no subsequent contact with OOB is contemplated by WFO concerning the "Moylan letter" and this information is being set forth for information of Baltimore

b7c [REDACTED]

b2 [REDACTED]

b7d [REDACTED]

It is pointed out for information of New York that on page 25 of the enclosed OOB newspaper, the letter signed by one LESLIE MC ADOO contains comments pertaining to the authenticity of the "Alpert letter", and states it "does not appear to be authentic" and sets forth several reasons.

b7c [REDACTED]

OOB is self-described in an editorial appearing in its September 1972 edition as being conceived of as a nationally distributed women's news journal, speaking to and about women in all areas - urban, suburban, rural - initiated and non-initiated.

WFO 25-32642

OOB's states its objectives as follows: to cover accurately all the news of interest to and made by women across the country; to present clear analysis of what's happening in the women's movement and around us; to create new language, where necessary, and change the definitions of situations in this society; to share the power that media necessarily confers upon those who control it by devoting special supplements to special interest groups we consider supportive of women. OOB was started in 1970, and currently maintains an office at 1724 20th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS - EXTREMIST.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 10/2/73

FROM : SAC, ALEXANDRIA (100-624)(RUC)

SUBJECT: ⑥ OFF OUR BACKS NEWSPAPER  
WOMEN'S LIBERATION MOVEMENT  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
IS - REVACT  
(OO: WFO)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/13/89 BY SP7 mac/w

100 - 457470 - 4  
Re Alexandria letter to Bureau, 5/18/71, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c  
b7d  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

No additional investigation in captioned matter warranted at this time, and Alexandria is considering the matter RUC.

REC-26

100 - 457470 - 4

- ② - Bureau
- 2 - WFO (100-50889)
- 2 - Alexandria
  - (1 - 100-624)
  - (1 - 170-356 Sub A)

EX-112

5 OCT 3 1973

(6)

